

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
extracting product management information in a third form that is associated with a
second source computerized product management system that is distinct
from the first source computerized product management system;
converting the product management information in the third form into product
management information that is in the second intermediate form;
converting the product management information in the second intermediate form
into product management information in the target form; and
using the product management information in the target form to perform at least one
computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented acts
comprising:
creating a new product management record in the target computerized
product management system; and
updating an existing product management record in the target computerized
product management system.
4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 4 22, wherein the ~~second intermediate form~~ product common object model includes a list of product elements for defining a hierarchy of data elements, wherein the hierarchy of data elements includes a plurality of product elements which include other elements.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein each of the plurality of product elements includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:
 - a product identifier;
 - a product base data element;
 - a product sales data element
 - a product configuration data element;
 - a related product line element for defining a product line element;
 - a product list of price type element for defining a plurality of product price type elements;
 - a product list of related inventory location element for defining a plurality of product related inventory location elements for the product;
 - a list of related product element for defining a plurality of related product elements;
 - a product list of related business unit element for defining a product related business unit element; and
 - a product custom data element.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the product base data element includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:
 - a product category code element;
 - a product description element;
 - an product effective end date element for defining a product's effective validity end date;
 - an product effective start date element for defining a product's effective validity start date;
 - a global product identifier element;

- a global product classification code element;
- a global product serial identifier;
- a global product special handling code element;
- a product name element;
- a product number element;
- a product part number element;
- a product status code element;
- a product type code element;
- a product unit of measure code element; and
- a product vendor part serial number element.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the product sales data element includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:

- a product field replaceable flag;
- a product lead time element;
- a product maximum order quantity element;
- a product minimum order quantity element;
- a product revision number element;
- a product orderable flag;
- a sales product flag;
- a service product flag;
- a service instance flag; and
- a serialized product flag.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein
- the product configuration data element includes a product configuration flag and a product related class element that is specific to a product;
 - the product line element includes a product line identifier, a product line base data element and a product line custom data element, wherein the product line base data element includes:
 - a product line description element; and
 - a product line name element;
 - each of the plurality of product price type elements includes a product price type code element;
 - each of the plurality of product related inventory location elements for the product includes a product inventory location identifier and a product inventory data element for the product, wherein the product inventory data element for the product includes one or more elements selected from:
 - a product inventory location classification data element, wherein the product inventory location classification data element includes one or more elements selected from:
 - a product movement class code element; and
 - a product value class code element; and
 - a product inventory location stocking data element, wherein the product inventory location stocking data element includes one or more elements selected from:
 - a product allocate below safety stock level flag;
 - a product auto substitute flag;
 - a product auto allocate flag;

a product maximum inventory level element;
a product minimum inventory level element; and
a product safety stock level element;

each of the plurality of related product elements includes one or more elements
selected from:

a related product identifier;
a related product name element;
a related product number element; and
a related product type code element; and

the product related business unit element includes a product organization identifier
and a product business unit data element, wherein the product business unit
data element includes a product sales unit of measure code element.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, further comprising:
extracting product management information in a third form that is associated with a
second source computerized product management system that is distinct
from the first source computerized product management system;
converting the product management information in the third form into product
management information that is in the second intermediate form;
converting the product management information in the second intermediate form
into product management information in the target form; and

using the product management information in the target form to perform at least one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented acts comprising:
creating a new product management record in the target computerized product management system; and
updating an existing product management record in the target computerized product management system.

12. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 9 23, wherein the ~~second intermediate form~~ product common object model includes a list of product elements for defining a hierarchy of data elements, wherein the hierarchy of data elements includes a plurality of product elements which include other elements.
13. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 12, wherein each of the plurality of product elements includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:
 - a product identifier;
 - a product base data element;
 - a product sales data element
 - a product configuration data element;
 - a related product line element for defining a product line element;
 - a product list of price type element for defining a plurality of product price type elements;
 - a product list of related inventory location element for defining a plurality of product related inventory location elements for the product;
 - a list of related product element for defining a plurality of related product elements;

a product list of related business unit element for defining a product related business unit element; and
a product custom data element.

14. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein the product base data element includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:
- a product category code element;
 - a product description element;
 - an product effective end date element for defining a product's effective validity end date;
 - an product effective start date element for defining a product's effective validity start date;
 - a global product identifier element;
 - a global product classification code element;
 - a global product serial identifier;
 - a global product special handling code element;
 - a product name element;
 - a product number element;
 - a product part number element;
 - a product status code element;
 - a product type code element;
 - a product unit of measure code element; and
 - a product vendor part serial number element.
15. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein the product sales data element includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:

- a product field replaceable flag;
- a product lead time element;
- a product maximum order quantity element;
- a product minimum order quantity element;
- a product revision number element;
- a product orderable flag;
- a sales product flag;
- a service product flag;
- a service instance flag; and
- a serialized product flag.

16. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein
- the product configuration data element includes a product configuration flag and a product related class element that is specific to a product;
 - the product line element includes a product line identifier, a product line base data element and a product line custom data element, wherein the product line base data element includes:
 - a product line description element; and
 - a product line name element;
 - each of the plurality of product price type elements includes a product price type code element;
 - each of the plurality of product related inventory location elements for the product includes a product inventory location identifier and a product inventory data element for the product, wherein the product inventory data element for the product includes one or more elements selected from:

a product inventory location classification data element, wherein the product inventory location classification data element includes one or more elements selected from:

- a product movement class code element; and
- a product value class code element; and

a product inventory location stocking data element, wherein the product inventory location stocking data element includes one or more elements selected from:

- a product allocate below safety stock level flag;
- a product auto substitute flag;
- a product auto allocate flag;
- a product maximum inventory level element;
- a product minimum inventory level element; and
- a product safety stock level element;

each of the plurality of related product elements includes one or more elements selected from:

- a related product identifier;
- a related product name element;
- a related product number element; and
- a related product type code element; and

the product related business unit element includes a product organization identifier and a product business unit data element, wherein the product business unit data element includes a product sales unit of measure code element.

17. (Withdrawn) A data structure for managing product, the data structure comprising a list of product element for defining a hierarchy of data elements, wherein the hierarchy of data elements includes a plurality of product elements which include other elements.
18. (Withdrawn) The data structure of Claim 17, wherein each of the plurality of product elements includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:
 - a product identifier;
 - a product base data element;
 - a product sales data element
 - a product configuration data element;
 - a related product line element for defining a product line element;
 - a product list of price type element for defining a plurality of product price type elements;
 - a product list of related inventory location element for defining a plurality of product related inventory location elements for the product;
 - a list of related product element for defining a plurality of related product elements;
 - a product list of related business unit element for defining a product related business unit element; and
 - a product custom data element.
19. (Withdrawn) The data structure of Claim 18, wherein the product base data element includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:
 - a product category code element;
 - a product description element;

- a product effective end date element for defining a product's effective validity end date;
- a product effective start date element for defining a product's effective validity start date;
- a global product identifier element;
- a global product classification code element;
- a global product serial identifier;
- a global product special handling code element;
- a product name element;
- a product number element;
- a product part number element;
- a product status code element;
- a product type code element;
- a product unit of measure code element; and
- a product vendor part serial number element.

20. (Withdrawn) The data structure of Claim 18, wherein the product sales data element includes one or more elements selected from a group comprising:

- a product field replaceable flag;
- a product lead time element;
- a product maximum order quantity element;
- a product minimum order quantity element;
- a product revision number element;
- a product orderable flag;
- a sales product flag;

- a service product flag;
- a service instance flag; and
- a serialized product flag.

21. (Withdrawn) The data structure of Claim 18, wherein
- the product configuration data element includes a product configuration flag and a product related class element that is specific to a product;
 - the product line element includes a product line identifier, a product line base data element and a product line custom data element, wherein the product line base data element includes:
 - a product line description element; and
 - a product line name element;
 - each of the plurality of product price type elements includes a product price type code element;
 - each of the plurality of product related inventory location elements for the product includes a product inventory location identifier and a product inventory data element for the product, wherein the product inventory data element for the product includes one or more elements selected from:
 - a product inventory location classification data element, wherein the product inventory location classification data element includes one or more elements selected from:
 - a product movement class code element; and
 - a product value class code element; and
 - a product inventory location stocking data element, wherein the product inventory location stocking data element includes one or more elements selected from:
 - a product allocate below safety stock level flag;
 - a product auto substitute flag;
 - a product auto allocate flag;

- a product maximum inventory level element;
- a product minimum inventory level element; and
- a product safety stock level element;

each of the plurality of related product elements includes one or more elements selected from:

- a related product identifier;
- a related product name element;
- a related product number element; and
- a related product type code element; and

the product related business unit element includes a product organization identifier and a product business unit data element, wherein the product business unit data element includes a product sales unit of measure code element.

22. (New) A method in a computing system for managing products, the method comprising:
integrating a plurality of product applications for a product management system associated with one or more products, wherein said integrating comprises:
if at least one new product is to be created then obtaining new product definitions and new product requirements associated with said at least one to-be-created new product from a source product application of said plurality of product applications, wherein said new product definitions and said new product requirements are in a source format corresponding to said source product application;
transforming said new product definitions and said new product requirements into a common language using a product common object model, wherein product common object model is comprehensible by said plurality of product applications;
communicating said transformed new product definitions and said transformed new product requirements to one or more target product applications from said plurality of product applications;

using said transformed new product definitions and said transformed new product requirements to create a first one or more new data records in a target form and update a first one or more existing data records in said target format to reflect said new product, wherein said target format corresponds to said one or more target product applications; causing to create said new product based on said first one or more new data records and said updated first said one or more existing data records if said one or more target product applications is tasked to create said new product;

if at least one existing product is to be modified then obtaining modified product definitions and modified product requirements associated with said at least one to-be-modified product from said source product application of said plurality of product applications, wherein said modified product definitions and said modified product requirements are in said source format corresponding to said source product application;

transforming said modified product definitions and said modified product requirements into said common language using said product common object model;

communicating said transformed modified product definitions and said transformed modified product requirements to said one or more target product applications;

using said transformed modified product definitions and said transformed modified product requirements to create a second one or more new data records in said target format and to update a second one or more existing data records in said target format to reflect said modified product; and

causing to modify said at least one to-be-modified product based on said second one or more new data records and said second updated

existing data records if said one or more target product applications is tasked to modify said at least one to-be-modified product. □

23. (New) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for managing products, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform:
- integrating a plurality of product applications for a product management system associated with one or more products, wherein said integrating comprises:
- if at least one new product is to be created then obtaining new product definitions and new product requirements associated with said at least one to-be-created new product from a source product application of said plurality of product applications, wherein said new product definitions and said new product requirements are in a source format corresponding to said source product application;
- transforming said new product definitions and said new product requirements into a common language using a product common object model, wherein product common object model is comprehensible by said plurality of product applications;
- communicating said transformed new product definitions and said transformed new product requirements to one or more target product applications from said plurality of product applications;
- using said transformed new product definitions and said transformed new product requirements to create a first one or more new data records in a target form and update a first one or more existing data records in said target format to reflect said new product, wherein said target format corresponds to said one or more target product applications;
- causing to create said new product based on said first one or more new data records and said updated first said one or more existing data records if

said one or more target product applications is tasked to create said new product;

if at least one existing product is to be modified then obtaining modified product definitions and modified product requirements associated with said at least one to-be-modified product from said source product application of said plurality of product applications, wherein said modified product definitions and said modified product requirements are in said source format corresponding to said source product application;

transforming said modified product definitions and said modified product requirements into said common language using said product common object model;

communicating said transformed modified product definitions and said transformed modified product requirements to said one or more target product applications;

using said transformed modified product definitions and said transformed modified product requirements to create a second one or more new data records in said target format and to update a second one or more existing data records in said target format to reflect said modified product; and

causing to modify said at least one to-be-modified product based on said second one or more new data records and said second updated existing data records if said one or more target product applications is tasked to modify said at least one to-be-modified product.